

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

July 28, 2005

2:00 P.M.



MINUTES

I. Welcome/Roll Call

The meeting is called to order at 2:00 pm. .

COMMITTEE MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT	
		Excused	Unexcused
Eric Reed, Dist. 3, Chairperson	X		
Vacant, Mayor's Appt.			
Olivia Chavez, Dist. 1	X		
Willie Padilla, Dist. 2	X		
Donald J. Seeley, Dist 4, Co-Chairperson	X		
Fred Gromand, Dist. 5	X		
Martin Wagner, Dist. 6		X	
Vacant, Dist. 7			
Ernesto Armendariz, Dist. 8	X		
Bill Bennett, ADA Coordinator	X		
Martha Macias, ADA Interpreter		X	
Juan Gonzalez, ADA Secretary	X		
Ruby B. Ransom (Mr. Reed's Assistant)	X		
Steve Burman, Human Resources		X	
Sergio Reyes, Traffic Eng. Div.		X	
James W. Peterson, Sun Metro	X		
Lisa A. Hayes, City Attorney's Office	X		

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A correction is made to item H with a missing word to be added. A motion was made, seconded, and approved amended minutes of June 23, 2005.

III. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Audible Pedestrian Signal status

All the devices have come in and the engineering design for the 21 intersections has been completed. Three intersections have been installed. Lomaland and Gateway is being started. The Washington and Paisano location needs a minor adjustment in the program so that it can be heard.

B. Sensitivity Training for Council Members.

The 10th floor changed the training from 5 hours to 1 hour. Because one hour is not enough time, the chairman will be meeting with the Mayor to request more time. The training is scheduled for 25 August at 2 pm. This is the same time as the regular AAC meeting, and it will be incorporated into the meeting. A motion is made, seconded, and passed to have the chairperson discuss with the Mayor on changes that can be done.

C. Establish Subcommittees for Goals and Objectives.

The members were asked to chair subcommittees on the goals and objectives that were set for the coming year. Donald Seeley chose the barrier-free construction subcommittee. Ernesto Armendariz chose to chair the sidewalk ordinance subcommittee. Olivia Chavez chose to chair the taxicab ordinance subcommittee. Eric Reed will chair the other four subcommittees, supportive employment, sensitive training, transition plan, and the ADA Coordinator Office relocation. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the subcommittee chairpersons.

D. Subcommittees meet following the regular meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and passed allow the individual chairs to determined subcommittee meeting time and places as long as the required 72 hour notification is posted.

E. Transition plan for the City of El Paso.

The need for a transition plan is one of the biggest issues presently. The 13-points of evaluation addresses the items that need to be included in the transition plan. The city had a plan, but it was not a transition plan and did not address

ADA programs and services needed. It is estimated that it might take a year to a year and a half to complete the plan. The city could be sued over this issue because of its noncompliance to the federal requirements since 1992.

F. Formal complaints regarding ADA/Accessibility Compliance.

The issue with police parking in accessible spaces Downtown and at headquarters is still pending. A memo was sent to all officers and deputy sheriffs to not park in accessible spaces, unless there is an emergency. A complaint was received about the stairs at the entrance to a church. The will be asked to install a ramp or the case will be sent to Department of Justice. A Disability Ministry is currently being established to help churches come into compliance. A complaint about a bar is being investigated and the committee will be updated on the status. Another complaint was received against the Texas Road House on Yarbrough. This is a new building and the complaint is also being handled by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

G. Update on transfer of the Accessibility Coordinator function.

The Accessibility office is (Bill Bennett) is to be moved to the 7th floor of City Hall and will be placed under the financial services division in the general service area. The Accessibility Specialist (Martha Macias) will be placed in the Municipal Clerk's office on the 2nd floor of City Hall. The secretary (Juan Gonzalez) will remain in Community Development.

H. Plan Reviews

1. Public Access Facilities

none

2. Municipal Projects

The golf course clubhouse has been reviewed and changes needed were returned to the designer. The zoo will need to come with a plan on how to expand the facility, since they will be keeping the elephants.

I. Next Meeting Agenda, Date and Location

The list of agenda item will be minimized for the next meeting. A motion was made, but was not seconded, to have the next meeting at 1pm. The motion failed, and a motion was made, seconded and approved to have the next meeting on August 25, 2005 at 2:00 pm in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall.

IV ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volar will have "Our Lives Conference" will be at the Camino Real at 9am on Friday, August 19, 2005. The cost will be \$15.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm

Eric Reed, Chairperson

William Bennett, Accessibility Coordinator